REGISTER OF CLASSIFICATION DECISIONS

Date of entry in Register:	09 June 1998
Name of applicant/court:	Comptroller of Customs
Applicant to the Labelling Body:	Not Applicable
Title of Publication:	Seventeen Video Productions 96/97
Other Known Titles:	Not Stated
Director:	Not Applicable
Producer:	Not Applicable
Publisher:	Seventeen
Author:	Not Applicable
Format:	Catalogue
Country of Origin:	The Netherlands
Language:	English

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Components of film originally examined:

Feature:	Not Applicable	Running time:
Trailers:		Running time:
		Total Running time:

Excision/Alteration: Not Applicable.

Reason(s) for Excision:

Not Applicable.

Classification Decision:

Objectionable.

Display Conditions:

Not Applicable.

Descriptive Note:

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Not Applicable.

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Direction to issue a label has been given on Not Applicable

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SUMMARY OF THE REASONS FOR DECISION:

The video catalogue *Seventeen Video Productions 96/97* is classified as objectionable.

The video catalogue is classified as objectionable for two related reasons. Firstly, because it promotes and supports the exploitation of young persons for sexual purposes, and secondly, because it promotes and supports the use of urine and excrement in association with sexual conduct.

The video catalogue is a small glossy booklet that contains reproductions of video slicks that are related to the video recordings that they advertise. The vast majority of the images contained on these slicks depict teenage females engaged in a range of sexually explicit activity including fellatio, vaginal intercourse, fisting, and either being urinated on or urinating onto other persons within a sexualised context. The titles of the vast majority of the advertised video recordings are clearly intended to identify the models as teenagers (for example 'Teenage Perversions', 'Horny Teens' or 'Schoolgirl's Holiday').

The video catalogue exploits the idea of age by sustained pictorial and written references that continually reinforce the suggestions being conveyed by the catalogue. Such an emphasis promotes the publications as a matter of curiosity: it invites the interested viewer to watch the publication in the expectation that observing teenagers participating in sexual activity will have an extraordinary level of titillation. At the same time the catalogue seeks to present the various sexual activities as legitimate.

For these reasons the Classification Office is of the opinion that the video catalogue promotes and supports the exploitation of young persons for sexual purposes and the use of urine and excrement in association with sexual conduct.

In reaching this decision the Classification Office has expressly taken into consideration the New Zealand Bill of Rights Act 1990 (NZBR Act). Section 3(2) of the Films, Videos, and Publications Classification Act 1993 takes precedence over s14 of the NZBR Act and so no further consideration needs to be given to s14.

OFLC Ref: 9701060